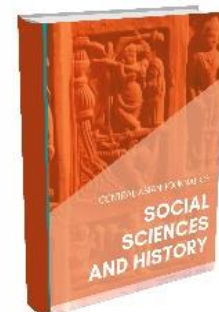




## CENTRAL ASIAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HISTORY

Journal homepage: <https://cajssh.centralasianstudies.org>



### Samarkand Under the Leadership of Vali Muhammad Khan

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#### Abstract:

In this article, the processes of the political life of the Ashtarkhanid dynasty and the importance of the Samarkand region in it, the Battle of Samarkand, the seizure of power by Imam Quli Khan with the help of Khoja Hashim Dahbedi, a descendant of Samarkand Sheikh Mahdumi Azam, the execution of the fathers Shahbek Kokaltash and Nazir Kokaltash by Imam Quli Khan and Nadr Muhammad, are the events of Samarkand. It is mentioned that it was carried out in the territory.

#### ARTICLE INFO

##### Article history:

Received 12-Aug-23

Received in revised form 20-Aug-23

Accepted 07-Sep-23

Available online 12-Oct-2023

**Key word:** Samarkand, council, "revolt of rulers" Imamkulinoma, emir, Dostum Arghun, Shahbi kokaltash, Nazir kokaltash, Khoja Hashim Dahbedi.

#### INTRODUCTION

The unexplored sides of history will never come to an end. The more we explore it, the more it shares information from its ocean. In this place, sources and handwritten literature, historical monuments are very important. By studying such informative rare works and historical monuments, we can learn about that period, place, and times. The service of IT technologies is great in conveying our historical heritage to the next generation. For example, Polish scientists are making a significant contribution to

the digitization of the heritage of the history of Samarkand during the Ashtarkhanid period.

The current appearance of Registan square, the heart of the city of Samarkand, was formed during the Ashtarkhanid era. The complex attracts local and foreign researchers with its magnificence and hospitality. The use of IT technologies in the preservation and study of historical monuments in the complex is carried out in cooperation with Polish scientists\*. It was mentioned in the previous article†. This article talks about the events that took place in Samarkand during the early rulers of the Ashtarkhanid dynasty.

**Battles for the throne.** After the death of Baqi Muhammad Khan‡, Vali Muhammad Khan took the throne. He appointed Imamquli to Samarkand§ and Nadr Muhammkhan to Shahrisabz. In the early years of Vali Muhammad Khan's reign, relations with the princes were very good.

Like Baqi Muhammad Khan, Vali Muhammad Khan (1605-1611)\*\* was initially forced to guard the southern borders of the country. Imamquli and Nadr Muhammad helped him in this regard in the early years. For example, Nadr Muhammad helps him in suppressing the rebellion of Abdullah, the son of Mahmud Sultan, the ruler of Hissar.

In 1606, the Bukhara army again marched to Balkh with the help of the Safavids. This time, the Bukhara armies won, and the Safavid army, consisting of red-headed people, was forced to flee to Iran. Although the Turkestan army that chased them was close to taking Herat under the control of Bukhara again, the goal was not realized due to heavy snow and severe cold. Since the Khurasan region was considered the main region where the interests of Bukhara and the Iranian states collided, the leadership in these regions was getting stronger. This area passed from hand to hand between the Ashtarkhanis and

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\* Miłosz Marek, Miłosz Elżbieta, Montusiewicz Jerzy. Determination of ceramic tile colour surface areas on the medieval Sher-Dor Madrasah mosaic in Samarkand – Problems and solutions. In: Digital Applications in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage, 2020, vol. 16, p. 1-6.

Milos Marek, Kayumov Rakhim, Samarov Khonkul. Cooperation in the digitization of cultural heritage // Echo of History. 2021 № 1. – P. 24-25.

Каюмов Рахим. Музейному комплексу Мирзо Улугбека в Самарканде передана серебряная монета с изображением великого польского астронома Николая Коперника // Народное слово 10 сентября 2021 года № 189.

Kęsik Jasek, Miłosz Marek, Montusiewicz Jerzy, Samarov Khonkul. Documenting the geometry of large architectural monuments using 3D scanning – the case of the dome of the Golden Mosque of the Tilya-Kori Madrasah in Samarkand. In: Digital Applications in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage, 2021, vol. 22, p. 1-11.

Samarov Khonkul. The Registan Ensemble – an Architectural Jewel of the Silk Road // Tangible Cultural Heritage of the Silk Road from the Area of Modern Uzbekistan, Lublin-2021, Page 15. (9-16)

† Rahmonova Parvina. The use of IT technologies in the study and preservation of historical monuments of Samarkand of the Ashtarkhanid era // Computer technologies in sharing the Cultural Heritage and education of the Silk Road from Uzbekistan. – P. 241-248.

‡ His death is given in different sources. For example: Iskandarbek Munshi, "History of Alamoroi Abbasi" gives the year 1605, "Bahr ul-asror" gives the year 1606.

§ Mahmoud ibn Wali "Bahr ul-asror" Bodleian Library №. 515. - V 76b.

\*\* Eshov B. "History of state and local administration in Uzbekistan" second book. - Tashkent.: 2019 New century generation, B-60.

the Savafis<sup>††</sup>.

In 1607, the princes helped to overcome the unrest in Badakhshan. When a local Badakhshan named Mirza Hasan, who claimed to be a Timurid prince, claimed Kunduz, Imamquli and Nadr Muhammad defeated him<sup>††</sup>. The success of the princes in such battles worried Wali Muhammad Khan. Fearing that they would usurp power from him, he sent fathers to control each prince to restrain their behavior. Nazarbi appoints Kokaltash to Samarkand to supervise the Imamkuli, and in order to distance Nadr Muhammad from his brother as governor of Balkh region, Nazarbi's brother Shahbi sends Kokaltash to monitor the actions of the prince<sup>§§</sup>. In addition, the local officials in the country gradually became dissatisfied with the policies of Wali Muhammad Khan.

Thomas Welsford based on Muhammad Salim's work "Silsilat al-Salatin" and wrote about the "revolt of the rulers" in the country during the first years of the rule of the Ashtarkhanid dynasty (1610-1611). This uprising consisted mainly of the Ashtarkhani princes' struggle for power. Despite the fact that they were the sons of the late Din Muhammad and the nephews of King Wali Muhammad, they fought for power with each other. According to Mahmud bin Vali, in the course of mutual struggle, in 1611, the emirs Nadirbek, Shukurbi Saray, Muhammad Baqi Kalmaq, Yalangtushbi and others were transferred by Vali Muhammad (1606-1611) to Imam Quli Khan (1611-1642)<sup>\*\*\*</sup>. Despite the internal chaos in the country, the Ashtarkhanids won several times over the Safavids.

**Vali Muhammad Khan's loss of power.** Shah Abbas, the ruler of the Safavids, who was defeated by the Ashtarkhans several times in a row, began to end the case through diplomacy. For example, he sends an ambassador to the residence of Wali Muhammad Khan and offers mutual neighborliness and friendship. For some reason, Vali Muhammad Khan, who had a high hand, agreed and sent ambassadors to Iran. As a result, a number of big officials, who have suffered a lot and shed blood for Khurasan, start to be dissatisfied with this policy of Wali Muhammad Khan. After all, as a result of the mentioned exchange of embassies, the status of Bukhara, which was restored in Khurasan in the following years, was easily lost. This situation made Bukhara emirs indifferent to Wali Muhammad Khan. Khan also found out about this and punished some of them. This did not turn the situation in the direction the king expected. The rest of the emirs went from open to open confrontation and came to the stage of placing Imamkuli Sultan, the nephew of Vali Muhammad Khan, the governor of Samarkand, on the supreme throne<sup>†††</sup>. Researcher J. Sangirov's article states: "Iskandarbek Munshi notes that in the end they will agree on the removal of Vali Muhammad Khan from power. They even prepare documents and stamp them. However, the letter about the rebellion of the emirs fell into the hands of Vali Muhammad Khan and he presented it to those who planned the rebellion in the council and asked them for an explanation.

<sup>††</sup> Tumanovich N.N. Herat in the 16th-18th centuries. – M.: Nauka, 1989. – P. 141.

<sup>††</sup> Thomas Welsford "Four types of loyalty in Early modern Central Asia", Leiden.Boston, 2013, P.246.

<sup>§§</sup> Thomas Welsford "Four types of loyalty in Early modern Central Asia", Leiden.Boston, 2013, P. 247; B. Ahmedov. "Lessons from history". Tashkent. "Teacher", 1994, p. 231.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Akhmedov B.A. History of Balkha (16th - first half of the 18th century). - Tashkent: Science, 1982. - S. 105.; Alekseev A.K. Srednyaya Azia pri Ashtarkhanidakh v XVII-XVIII centuries. - St. Petersburg, 2004. - S. 143.

<sup>†††</sup> Ziyoyev A. The history of Uzbek statehood. Tashkent: Sharq publishing house, 2000. - B. 259-260.

When they did not confess, he showed the letter and the seals of the emirs in his hands and sentenced them to death<sup>†††</sup>. For example, in 1610, the killing of Dostumbi, Hajibi Kushchi, and Shah Kuchubi Dorman, who tried to rebel against him, caused Vali Muhammad Khan to increase his enemies. His efforts to strengthen his rule in this way will not bear fruit. Nadr Muhammad and Imamquli soon kill their fathers who were sent for them.

In this situation, the arbitrariness and tyranny of some governors began to increase. For example, Shahbek was from a tribe of Uzbeks called Polotchi and was appointed governor of Balkh region by Vali Muhammad Khan. The punishment he used on the people and the sinners was so cruel and cruel that he built a stone wall and placed two executioners there. he would tear the burnt body to pieces. Gradually, such oppression increased the enmity of the people and the officials towards the ruler. As a result, the officials and the people began to be dissatisfied with the policy of Vali Muhammad Khan. His execution of Amir Dostum Arghun in Samarkand was another reason for the discontent of the officials. About the behavior of this ruler, the source says: *آن شهریار بر متکای جاه و جلال بوده بداد رسی و مظلوم پرسی اقدام می نمود و اکثر بشرب مدام و مثنی بردوام و کردارات ناپسند همچون مردان ماهروی و زنان عنبرین موی مشغول می کردید ازین افال او مردوم دلگیر شده ضمنا به امامقلیجان عرایض ارسال نمودند و اورا به سلطنت بخارا خوشدل گردانیدند*. Content: Relying on his authority in the state, he did many dirty deeds, indulged in alcoholism and engaged in many dirty deeds. This increased the number of people against him among the officials, and they decided to put Imam Qulikhan on the throne. This information in the work "History of Muqimkhani" related to the Ashtarkhanid dynasty can be said to be related to the last years of his reign.

The chapter of the work "Imamqulinoma" is "The story of the execution of Shahbek Kokaldosh in the Samarkand region and the decision of Imam Qulikhan to execute Nazr Kokaltash"<sup>§§§</sup>. From this, it can be said that Shahbek Kokaldosh was executed in Samarkand. But when comparing it with the work "History of Muqimkhani", the place where the incident happened is inconsistent. Because in the work "History of Muqimkhani", the emirs who were dissatisfied with the policy of Vali Muhammad Khan called Imam Qulikhan, encouraged him to take over the state power, and gathered the princes and nobles in Bukhara and ordered them to capture Shahbek. But at that time he fled to Abdullah Khan's madrasa and hid there. The soldiers destroyed the wall of the madrasa, tied his hands and feet, brought him to Imam Quli Khan and subjected him to the same punishment as he had inflicted on the guilty in Balkh<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>. But the interesting thing is that the same story is mentioned in the work "Imamqulinoma" as follows:

It was said that it took place in Samarkand:

*اشتہار یافتن قتل شہ بیک کوکلتاش در ولایت سمرقند و کمر کین بستن خان خاقان نشان بقتل نظر کوکلتاش*<sup>††††</sup>

Content: The spread of the news about the killing of Shahbek Kokaltash in Samarkand region and

<sup>†††</sup> Sangirov J. "Illumination of the activities of the supreme council in the sources of the Ashtarkhanid dynasty. Infolib// Tashkent: page 93

<sup>§§§</sup> See: Imamqulinoma. ShQF. Manuscript number pages 29-30

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> History of Muqimkhani, copy of SamDU, 96.

<sup>††††</sup> See: Imamqulinoma. O. S. M. Fund. Manuscript number, 89, page 30.

the Khagan's initiation of action to kill Nazir Kokaltash.

The author of "History of Muqimkhani", Muhammad Yusuf Munshi ibn Khoja Baqah, was one of the great scholars who lived in the 17th century and was born in Balkh. During the reign of Subhankuli Khan and Muhammed Muqim Khan<sup>††††</sup>, he was glorified as "palace tugronavisi"<sup>§§§§</sup> in the Balkh province, and he worked in the position of munshi, whose duty was to write down and confirm the wishes of the ruler and deliver them to their owners<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup>. Taking into account that this work was written in Balkh, we can say that the work "Imamkulinama" is the primary source, based on the fact that it was written in the palace of the Bukhara Khanate. Because Hafiz Tanish Bukhari<sup>†††††</sup>, the storyteller who was recognized as the author of the work and wrote under the pseudonym Suhail, lived in the time of the Ashtarkhani rulers Baqi Muhammad, Wali Muhammad, and Imam Quli Khan. This issue will be clarified in further studies.

Enthronement of Imam Quli Khan. After the execution, Imam Quli Khan invited the emirs and scholars to hold a council. The main issue discussed in it was Imam Quli Khan's accession to the throne<sup>†††††</sup>. In 1611, as a result of the help given by Shah Abbas, Vali Muhammad Khan temporarily occupied the throne, but in October of the same year, he was defeated by Imam Quli Khan in the battle in Samarkand<sup>§§§§§</sup>.

The abdicated Vali Muhammad Khan marched again with an army of 80,000 men sent to help by Shah Abbas. When Vali Muhammad Khan with an army of 80,000 men sent to help by Shah Abbas was coming against Imam Quli Khan, Imam Quli Khan came to his teacher, Sheikh Khoja Hashim Dahbedi, kissed his hand and asked for advice. Then the sheikh told him that he should be calm and gave him a white blessing, and in the battle Vali Muhammad Khan was captured and executed by the order of the sheikh<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup>. Kattayev K. and Azamat Zia wrote that Vali Muhammad Khan was killed.

As a result of the battle, Vali Muhammad Khan's children and ten thousand soldiers went to the service of Shah Abbas in Herat region of Khurasan. Imamkuli Khan went back to Samarkand<sup>†††††</sup>.

It should be said that, unlike Vali Muhammad Khan, Imam Quli Khan was very devoted to the sheikhs of Samarkand. Just one example, right before the battle of Samarkand, he received a white blessing from Sheikh Khoja Hashim<sup>†††††</sup>. However, Vali Muhammad Khan relied on the sheikhs of Bukhara. In fact, in order to strengthen these relations, he gave his sister Jonikhon to Muhammad Islam's grandson Abdurahim Khoja, and in turn took Abdurahim's sister as his wife. And the sheikhs of

<sup>††††</sup> Muhammad Muqimkhan is the grandson of Subhanqulikhan, the son of Iskandar

<sup>§§§§</sup> Muhit al-Tawarikh page 57.

<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup> Madjma' al-arkam. S. 96-105; Tazkirat ash-shu'aro. page 363; Environment at-Tawarikh. Page 69.

<sup>†††††</sup> Abdullanoma. The first book. Pages 27-28.

<sup>†††††</sup> See: Imamqulinoma. ShQF. Manuscript number 89, page 31; Abu Tahirkhoja "Samaria" Tashkent "Kamalak" 1991, page 67.

<sup>§§§§§</sup> The history of Sayyid Rakim SamDU 260-261b, 2. In "History of Uzbek statehood".

2. Azamat Ziya "History of Uzbek statehood" Sharq publishing house, Tashkent.-2000, page 260

<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup> The history of Sayyid Rakim SamDU 209<sup>b</sup>.

<sup>†††††</sup> The history of Sayyid Rakim SamDU 210<sup>b</sup>

<sup>†††††</sup> The history of Sayyid Rakim SamDU 209<sup>b</sup>



Samarkand<sup>§§§§§§</sup>. It can be seen that this sheikh had his place in the administration of the country and was highly respected. What generation did Khoja Hashim Dahbedi belong to?

Muhammad Hashimkhoja Dahbedi is one of the most prominent representatives of the Dahbedi family. This breed is the grandson of Makhdumi Azam<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup> and the son of Khoja Kalon. Apart from Khoja Hashim, Khoja Kalonkhoja had two children, Salihkhoja and Muhammad Yusufkhoja. Salihkhoja was active in Balkh (Khorasan), Muhammad Yusufkhoja (father of Afaqkhoja) was active in Eastern Turkestan<sup>†††††††</sup>, and Khoja Hashim Dahbedi was active in Samarkand and called the people to guidance. He even personally participated in the ruler's political activities. We can know this from the relationship between Wali Muhammad and Imamquli. The activity of this sheikh during the time of Imam Quli Khan requires a separate study. Not only did he participate in the political activities of the rulers, but he directly participated in the coming to power of regional governors in the country. According to Kamilkhan Kattayev, by the will of Khoja Hashim Dahbedi, Nalangtushbi was placed on the throne of Samarkand<sup>†††††††</sup>.

**Based on the above information, the following opinions and comments can be expressed:**

During the Ashtarkhanid dynasty, the status of Samarkand was no less than Bukhara. In managing the country, the rulers of the dynasty received help and support from the sheikhs of Samarkand. We can see this in the time of Imamkuli Bahadir Khan. The decisive battle of Imamquli Khan's seizure of power took place in Samarkand. So, we can easily call Samarkand the second capital of the dynasty. During the Ashtarkhanid dynasty, the status of Samarkand was no less than Bukhara. In managing the country, the rulers of the dynasty received help and support from the sheikhs of Samarkand. We can see this in the time of Imamkuli Bahadir Khan. The decisive battle of Imamquli Khan's seizure of power took place in Samarkand. So, Samar is the second capital of the dynasty.

Some political and diplomatic actions of Baqi Muhammad's brother Wali Muhammad in the management of power led to the end of his rule, and the brothers Imamquli and Nadr Muhammad took advantage of this favorable situation.

The role of the sheikhs of Dahbed in the administration of Samarkand was incomparable during the time of some Timurid rulers and during the time of Bukhara Khanate Imam Quli Khan.

Studying the subsequent activities of Khoja Hashim Dahbedi, who helped Imamquli Khan to come to the throne, is of urgent importance in illuminating the history of Samarkand. The activity of this sheikh during the time of Imam Quli Khan requires a separate study.

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<sup>§§§§§§</sup> Thomas Welsford "Four types of loyalty in Early modern Central Asia", Leiden.Boston, 2013, P.245-248.

<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup> 949 (1542), a great mystic who lived in the 16th century. died; real name is Ahmad ibn Jalaluddin Kosani

<sup>†††††††</sup> Kattaev K. The history of Makhdumi Azam and the perfect sect of Dahbedis. - Samarkand: Makhdumi Azam Dahbedi Scientific Research Foundation, 2011. - B. 95. (- 92 p.)

<sup>†††††††</sup> Kattaev K. The history of Makhdumi Azam and the perfect sect of Dahbedis. - Samarkand: Makhdumi Azam Dahbedi Scientific Research Foundation, 2011. - B. 95. (- 144 p.)

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